

HYDROGEL ENTRAPPING THERAPEUTIC AGENT.
AND STENT WITH COATING COMPRISING THIS

Abstract of the Disclosure

A hydrogel forming system which comprises a hydrophobic macromer with unsaturated group terminated ends and a hydrophilic polymer which is a polysaccharide containing hydroxy groups which are reacted with unsaturated group introducing compound, is convertible by free radical polymerization to form a hydrogel containing a three dimensional crosslinked polymer network containing hydrophobic and hydrophilic components. Agent can be entrapped in the polymer network, e.g., drugs, macromolecules or synthetic or natural polymers, for controlled release therefrom. In one embodiment, a vascular stent is coated with hydrogel with therapeutic agent entrapped therein.

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